

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

November Livestock Slaughter
Hog and Pig Inventory
Average Prices Received by Farmers
Cotton Ginnings

Louisiana Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production in Louisiana during November totaled 1.1 million pounds, unchanged from October but 8 percent below the previous year.

There were 1,000 head of **cattle** slaughtered during November, 200 head fewer than in October and 100 head fewer than in November of the previous year. Average live weight was 936 pounds, up 57 pounds from the previous month and 52 pounds above November 2003. Total live weight, at 958,000 pounds, was 11 percent below the previous month and 5 percent below the previous year.

Calves slaughtered during November totaled 800 head, up 100 head from October but 100 head fewer than the previous year. Live weight averaged 478 pounds, down 1 pound from October and 5 pounds below a year ago. Total live weight at 380,000 pounds was up 11 percent from October but 9 percent below the previous year.

The number of **hogs** slaughtered during November totaled 2,300 head, up 700 head from last month and 200 head more than in November 2003. Average live weight was 181 pounds, down 20 pounds from October and 11 pounds below the previous year. Total live weight was 419,000 pounds, up 27 percent from October and 5 percent above a year ago.

The number of **sheep** slaughtered during November totaled 100 head, the same as both October and the previous year. Live weight averaged 81 pounds, up 11 pounds from the previous month and the previous year.

United States Livestock Slaughter

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.77 billion pounds in November, up 7 percent from the 3.53 billion pounds produced in November 2003.

November 2004 contained 22 weekdays (including two holidays) and 4 Saturdays. November 2003 contained 20 weekdays (including two holidays) and 5 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 1.94 billion pounds, was 9 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.54 million head, up 4 percent from November 2003. The average live weight was up 35 pounds from the previous year, at 1,271 pounds.

Veal production totaled 13.8 million pounds, 9 percent below November a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 68,000 head, down 13 percent from November 2003. The average live weight was 14 pounds above last year, at 336 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.80 billion pounds, a new monthly record, and was up 5 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.96 million head, 4 percent above November 2003. The average live weight was 1 pound above the previous year, at 270 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 16.5 million pounds, was up 1 percent from November 2003. Sheep slaughter totaled 242,100 head, 3 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, down 2 pounds from November a year ago.

January to November 2004 commercial red meat production was 41.5 billion pounds, down 3 percent from 2003. Accumulated beef production was down 7 percent from last year; veal was down 12 percent; pork was up 3 percent from last year, but lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter and Red Meat Production

Item	Louisiana					United States			
	October	November		January - November		November		January - November	
	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	----- Number, thousand head -----					----- Number, thousand head -----			
Cattle	1.2	1.1	1.0	13.7	12.3	2,433.5	2,541.0	32,818.1	30,032.0
Calves	0.7	0.9	0.8	9.4	7.1	78.1	68.0	903.4	768.7
Hogs	1.6	2.1	2.3	21.6	20.3	8,597.4	8,963.6	91,569.7	94,196.6
Sheep & Lambs	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.7	1.6	236.1	242.1	2,716.8	2,595.2
	----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----					----- Total live weight, thousand pounds -----			
Cattle	1,076	1,006	958	12,105	10,676	3,008,512	3,228,842	40,373,954	37,170,042
Calves	341	417	380	4,694	3,458	25,110	22,843	286,476	253,878
Hogs	330	398	419	4,476	4,114	2,316,151	2,416,669	24,352,873	25,064,463
Sheep & Lambs	10	8	8	156	152	32,538	32,934	362,545	352,424
	----- Average live weight, pounds -----					----- Average live weight, pounds -----			
Cattle	879	884	936	884	868	1,236	1,271	1,230	1,238
Calves	479	483	478	499	487	322	336	317	330
Hogs	201	192	181	207	203	269	270	266	266
Sheep & Lambs	70	70	81	91	95	138	136	133	136
	----- Million pounds -----					----- Million pounds -----			
Red Meat	1.1	1.2	1.1	13.9	11.9	3,532.7	3,771.0	42,688.2	41,483.7

Louisiana Hog Inventory

Louisiana's total hog inventory for December 1, 2004, at 16,000, was down 4,000 head from December 2003. At 2,000 head, the Louisiana breeding hog inventory was down 1,000 head from the December 1 inventory a year ago. Market hog inventories totaled 14,000 head, down 3,000 head from a year earlier.

The December 2003 to November 2004 Louisiana pig crop, at 30,000 head, was down 4,000 head from the pig crop in 2003. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 4,200 head, down 400 head from the 2003 figure. An average of 7.14 pigs were saved per litter during the December 2003 to November 2004 period.

United States Hog Inventory

U.S. inventory of all hogs and pigs on December 1, 2004, was 60.5 million head. This was up slightly from December 1, 2003, but down 1 percent from September 1, 2004.

Breeding inventory, at 5.97 million head, was down 1 percent from December 1, 2003, but up slightly from last quarter. Market hog inventory, at 54.5 million head, was up slightly from last year, but 2 percent below last quarter.

The September to November 2004 U.S. pig crop, at 25.6 million head, was up slightly from 2003 and up 2 percent from 2002. Sow's farrowing during this period totaled 2.85 million head, down slightly from last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 48 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs saved per litter was 8.96 for the September – November period, compared to 8.93 last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.50 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.10 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

Hogs and Pigs on Farms, December 1, 2004

Item	Louisiana		United States ¹	
	2003	2004	2003	2004
	----- 1,000 Head -----		----- 1,000 Head -----	
Total Hogs and Pigs	20.0	16.0	60,444	60,501
Breeding	3.0	2.0	6,009	5,969
Market	17.0	14.0	54,434	54,531
Under 60 pounds	6.0	5.0	19,778	19,636
60-119 pounds	5.0	4.0	13,238	13,439
120-179 pounds	3.0	2.0	11,109	11,286
180 pounds & over	3.0	3.0	10,311	10,171

¹ Weight groups may not add to market due to rounding.

Annual Farrowings: Number of Sows, Pigs per Litter and Pig Crop by State and United States, December – November 2003 – 2004¹

Selected States	Sows Farrowing		Pigs per Litter		Pig Crop	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	----- 1,000 Head -----		----- Number -----		----- 1,000 Head - -----	
Alabama	25.0	29.0	8.80	8.83	220.0	256.0
Arkansas	149.0	164.0	9.63	9.55	1,435.0	1,566.0
Louisiana	4.6	4.2	7.39	7.14	34.0	30.0
Mississippi	60.0	61.5	8.60	8.78	516.0	540.0
Texas	174.0	194.0	8.70	8.76	1,514.0	1,700.0
United States	11,429.0	11,445.0	8.88	8.94	101,490.0	102,305.0

¹ December preceding year.

Prices Received Index Down

The Preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in December, at 112, based on 1990-92=100, is 3 points below the November Index. The Crop Index is down 8 points from November while the Livestock Index increased 1 point. Producers received higher commodity prices for cattle, dairy, eggs and cauliflower. Lower prices were received for tomatoes, oranges, corn and cotton. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of dairy, tobacco and wheat offset decreased marketings of cattle, grapes and soybeans. The Preliminary All Farm Products Index is down 2 points from December 2003.

The Food Commodities Index decreased 4 points from last month to 118. The index is up 2 points from December 2003.

Prices Paid Index Unchanged

The December Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes and Farm Wage Rates is 134 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index is unchanged from November but 5 points above December 2003. Lower prices in December for feeder cattle, diesel fuel, complete feeds and gasoline, are offset by higher prices for feeder pigs, nitrogen, fertilizers, LP gas and feed concentrates.

Average Prices Received by Farmers: November 2003

Item	Louisiana			United States		
	Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
	December	November	December	December	November	December
	2003	2004	2004 ¹	2003	2004	2004 ¹
	----- Dollars -----			----- Dollars -----		
Soybeans, per bushel	7.38	5.75	5.40	7.17	5.36	5.41
Rice, per cwt	7.79	7.82	7.77	7.57	7.39	7.41
Upland Cotton, per pound	.619	.462	.409 ²	.633	.444	.410 ²
Hay, all, baled, per ton	n/a	n/a	n/a	80.60	86.20	84.30
Beef Cattle, per cwt ³	59.20	66.50	64.00	94.40	85.10	86.30
Steers & Heifers, per cwt	89.30	98.10	98.00	95.60	90.20	91.90
Cows, per cwt ⁴	45.00	48.70	48.00	49.20	48.90	48.70
Calves, per cwt	103.00	117.00	116.00	112.00	124.00	121.00
Broilers, live, per pound	n/a	n/a	n/a	.380	.390	.390
Eggs, all, per dozen	n/a	n/a	n/a	.868	.612	.654
Milk, all, per cwt ⁵	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.80	16.10	16.50

¹Mid-month.

²Preliminary prices are based on sales during the first half of the month.

³“Cows” and “steers and heifers” combined.

⁴Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

⁵Before deductions for hauling and government withholdings. Includes bulk tank, quantity, and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

n/a = not available.

**Cotton Ginnings: Running Bales Ginned (Excluding Linters) Prior to
December 15, by Crop, State and United States, Crop Years 2001 - 2004**

Crop and State	Running Bales Ginned			
	2001	2002	2003	2004
<u>All Cotton</u>				
Alabama	776,550	510,350	728,150	726,200
Arizona	515,000	471,750	368,600	440,050
Arkansas	1,775,000	1,596,450	1,720,800	1,946,650
California	1,836,650	1,627,800	1,452,900	1,798,750
Florida	131,950	60,500	113,700	86,900
Georgia	1,865,200	1,318,750	1,773,350	1,610,250
Kansas ¹	-----	-----	28,300	9,800
Louisiana	1,042,900	746,850	1,028,300	881,600
Mississippi	2,249,650	1,840,000	2,038,650	2,233,550
Missouri	664,750	564,950	655,800	782,950
New Mexico	61,350	46,000	48,400	44,100
North Carolina	1,355,650	711,450	931,950	1,262,850
Oklahoma	154,100	158,650	159,900	175,600
South Carolina	392,150	105,300	263,750	336,450
Tennessee	936,200	776,350	821,300	916,300
Texas	3,682,800	3,777,650	3,444,500	3,744,350
Virginia	166,500	79,650	99,650	138,100
United States	17,606,400	14,392,450	15,678,000	17,134,450
<u>American-Pima</u>				
Arizona ²	10,300	12,850	-----	-----
California	315,000	341,650	269,750	432,900
New Mexico ²	9,750	11,600	-----	-----
Texas	32,400	27,450	31,850	27,450
United States	367,450	393,550	313,550	475,200

¹ Withheld to avoid disclosing individual gins.

² Withheld to avoid disclosing individual gins, but included in state total.

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